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# LETTER DATED 11 FEBRUARY 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF COSTA RICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit the attached letter dated 6 February 1998 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica, Mr. Fernando Naranjo Villalobos, addressed to the Secretary-General concerning Iraq (see annex).

Since this is an item which is on the agenda of the Security Council, I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex distributed as a document of the Council.

(Signed) Fernando BERROCAL-SOTO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

[Original: English]

Letter dated 6 February 1998 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the serious situation that has arisen in Iraq as a direct result of its Government's refusal to comply fully and unconditionally with Security Council resolutions. In particular, Costa Rica is deeply concerned with Iraq's recurrent impediments to the Special Commission's inspections. These impediments have become a source of grave tensions that threaten international peace and security.

In my Government's opinion, the time has come for the Secretary-General to undertake a personal mission to Iraq, with the objective of conveying to President Saddam Hussain the grave concern of the international community in relation to this very serious crisis. Costa Rica firmly believes that the Secretary-General, according to his mandate and the Charter of the United Nations, could exercise his good offices to promote and facilitate a diplomatic solution to the current situation. Such good offices would strengthen the resolve of the Security Council to remain united in this crisis, as well as its firm decision regarding the fulfilment of the aforementioned resolutions.

We are convinced that your leadership and vision could provide new avenues of dialogue and understanding at this very difficult and complex moment. Determined to carry out all diplomatic options available to us, the Government of Costa Rica attributes extraordinary priority to your personal involvement at this time.

(Signed) Fernando E. NARANJO

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